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EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/881464

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Group Art Unit

2839

—Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement

## Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the:
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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Drawings objected to, fig. 2, leadline from 102 and 107 are incorrect. Fig. 3 section lines for 100 and housing 102 seem incorrect. If these parts are of metal they must be so sectioned. This also applies to figs. 4, 6, 7. If to be shown as conductive plastic, the parts should be sectioned accordingly. Also "102" with leadline should be added to fig. 3. In fig. 3 the chassis wall should also be shown with numeral 108.

Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

Fig. 3 also seems unclear and inconsistent with the spec in that it shows a wall at flange 110 that extends fully across the assembly and with a hole for contact 140. This is not described in the spec. The spec seems to call for shroud (boot) that is open frontwardly like the Ven Doorn shroud 10 and the Kodama boot 31', fig. 8.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the claims 24, 29, connector housing contacted to cable shield and contacted to the structure (chassis) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

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In fig. 3, the most detailed fig, none of these features are shown. Housing 132 is not shown to contact a chassis wall or to engage cable shield 134.

For independent claims, body or shroud should be recited as being conductive since that is necessary for basic purpose of the invention, added EMI protection.

Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In view of the fig. 3 problems noted above, exactly what is being disclosed is unclear. If the front wall is proper it should be accorded a numeral and discussion in the spec. If not proper, a new fig. 3 is required.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35

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U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIA (pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7, 9-18, 21-~~23~~, 29, 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura in view of Kuo and Reuss.

Yoshimuro discloses an assembly with a connector 20 and a cover 40 having a cable engagement body. Yoshimura does not include chassis attachment features. Kuo at 21 and in figs. 5, 6 show chassis attachment means.

Obvious to provide such features on Yoshimura to enable it to be joined to a mating chassis mounted connector and for improved shielding. This feature also seems to be admitted as prior art and not at issue. Reuss, not essential, added for a more clear depiction at 16, 2, 17 of a connector within a cover. Claims 2-6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16-18, 21, 22 add features clearly present in Yoshimura or, as in claim 11, features "polygon shape" that produce no stated new result over the references. For claim 7, Yoshimura cable engagement at 72 meets terms "capacitively coupled". In addition and for claims 14, 15 it would have been obvious to use a cover like that of Reuss at 15, 6, 3 with the cable shield passing through part of the shield (at 6)

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and which would be capacitively coupled to that part. This would only be an alternative manner of cable to shield connection. It also is noted that claim 7, etc that call for capacitive connection without reciting the cable insulating cover do not define over direct connection as in Yoshimura.

Claims 8, 19, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura in view of Kuo, Reuss, Germany 124 and Young.

Yoshimura lacks cable piercing means and a chassis contact gasket. The German patent at 32, etc and Young at 14 show such features. It would have been obvious to add such features to the Yoshimura/Kuo device. This would enable omission of the cable stripping step and would insure more reliable chassis engagement (by the gasket).

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Doorn in view of Germany 124.

VanDoorn discloses a system with connector 16 and shroud 10 that contacts cable 14. Van Doorn also discloses that connector 16 may be a coaxial cable connector, col. 4, lines 30-40.

Coaxial connectors typically include connection to a cable shield as shown by the German patent. Obvious to use such a connector in Van Doorn at 16. This is not seen to be a change but only to depict that which is intended.

Claims 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Yoshimura.

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The reference shows steps of provision of a housing 40, contacting the housing 40, contacting the housing to cable shield 72, use of shroud 50 which contacts the cable 70. Since issues may arise it is alternatively asserted that order of steps would be obvious variation.

Claims 25, 27, 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura in view of Van Doorn and Germany 124.

Yoshimura lacks shroud to cable capacitive impedance means. Van Doorn shows a "conductive boot or shroud" 42 that could obviously be capacitively coupled to a cable shield. Obvious to use same in Yoshimura in place of or in addition to shroud 50. This would enable omission of the molding step and would provide increased EMI protection. Note that in Van Doorn, connector 16 would typically be a shielded connector like that of Yoshimura. For claim 27, the Van Doorn shroud lacks piercing means. Obvious to add such feature in view of German patent to enable more complete EMI protection.

Claims 31, 32, 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Van Doorn.

References are applied as above. Obvious to form Yoshima connector with conductive boot like that of Van Doorn at 42 for reasons noted above. Such boot would surround the cable shield and could inherently be capacitively coupled thereto. For claims 7, 14, as an alternative, Yoshimura is read as lacking a cover. Obvious to add a conductive cover in view of Van Doorn at 42, such cover being capacitively connected to the cable 70. This would improve EMI protection.

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Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12-18, 21, 22, <sup>23,</sup> 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adelberger.

Adelberger, cited in PCT case, discloses an assembly with connector 42, cover 16, 14 with chassis attachment means 96, 94 and a cable engagement part at 18. The width relationship is present with cable opening defined at ribs 26, 28. For claim 2 the parts 14, 16 are conductive. Claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 29-32 all met by Adelberger as described above. For claims 7, 14, 15 parts of the fig. 3 housing in area of ribs 24, 70 would be capacitively coupled to the cable. For claim 12, the ribs 26, 28 are to engage the cable shroud.

Claims 7, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adelberger.

Claim 11 polygon shape deemed obvious variation should polygon shape cable be used. Claims 7, 14, 15 should the matters be at issue, also obvious that such capacitive coupling would be present. Claims 13, 16 relationships, should they be at issue, considered obvious design matters producing no stated advantages.

Claims 8, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adelberger in view of Germany 124.

Adelberger lacks shield cable piercing means. The German patent shows such features. Obvious to add such means to Adelberger for better connection to the cable shield.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kodama.



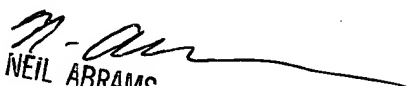
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Kodama fig. 1 discloses an assembly with connector 1 and cover 5 with a chassis (4) engages 16 and with a cable engagement part 14, 21. Claims 3, 4, etc also met by the reference.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to N. Abrams at telephone number 308-1729.

Abrams/ek

08/07/03

  
NEIL ABRAMS  
EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 322